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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT NO. [redacted]

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY Germany (Russian Zone)

DATE DISTR. 21 September 1951

SUBJECT 1950 Report of VEB Eisen u. Stahlwerk (VVB Vesta), Groeditz

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SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

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1. A copy was obtained of a 1950 report, dated [redacted] of the VEB Eisen u. Stahlwerk (VVB Vesta), in Groeditz (M 52/E 92). 25X1A

2. According to this report, the 1950 production quota of ingot steel was set at 56,000 tons for this plant. The plant produced a total of 56,525 tons of ingot steel, thus achieving 101 percent of the 1950 quota. In addition, 5,018 tons of smelted steel were produced for steel castings. Of the total ingot steel production, 19,244 tons were allocated to the VEB Walzwerk Willy Becker (VVB Vesta) in Kirchmoeser (N 53/Z 12), 7,392 tons to the Kupper u. Blechwalzwerk Michael Niederkirchner in Ilsenburg, Harz (M 52/D 06), 199 tons to the SAG Martem Kupfer-u. Messingwerk in Hettstedt (M 52/D 64), 4,040 tons to the SAG Maschinenfabrik Krupp Gruson in Magdeburg (M 53/Y 60), 96 tons to the steam Hammer Plant and Drop Forge (sic) in Grossenhain (N 52/A 01), and the remaining 25,054 tons were distributed to various wheel rim rolling mills, forges and other metal-working enterprises in the Russian Zone of Germany.

3. In 1950, the steel casting foundries of the plant produced only 3,554 tons, or 71 percent of the 5,000 ton quota. The shortage of materials which delayed the final construction of the workshop building was responsible for this reduced production. Only 60 percent of the available space was usable late in 1950.

4. In 1950, the wheel rim rolling mill produced 17,321 tons, or 116 percent of the 15,000 ton quota. Of this production, 872 tons were allocated to the SAG plants, 16,338 tons to the railroad, mining, streetcar and other enterprises while 111 tons were used by the Eisen u. Stahlwerk Groeditz.

5. In 1950, the forge produced 2,534 tons or 127 percent of the 2,000 ton quota. Of this production, 339 tons were allocated to the SAG enterprises, 1,857 tons to VEB enterprises and 338 tons were processed in the plant itself.

6. In 1950, the grey iron foundries produced 17,235 tons of chilled castings (Kokillen) and 2,284 tons of pig iron castings or 166 percent and 142 percent respectively of the 10,400 ton and 1,600 ton quota. These quotas were exceeded by working extra shifts in these foundries.

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7. In 1950, the malleable iron foundries produced 2,616 tons, or 109 percent of the 2,400 ton quota. Of this production, 2,077 tons were used for fittings while 539 tons were castings produced for other enterprises.

8. In 1950, the fitting cutting shop (Fittingsschneiderei) processed 1,630 tons or 136 percent of the 1,200 ton quota. Of this production, 486 tons were shipped for reparations.

9. In 1950, the metal foundries produced 64.4 tons of copper castings and 5.6 tons of aluminum castings which is 108 percent and 16 percent of the respective 60 ton and 36 ton quotas.

10. The investments scheduled for 1950 included completion of the construction of the steelworks with its auxiliary enterprises, as well as the expansion of a number of the existing installations, including Steel Casting Foundries I and II, the iron construction department (Abteilung Eisenbau), the large forge No I, the chilled casting department, the malleable iron foundry, the fitting cutting shop and the wheel rim rolling mill. The investments also included expenditures for office equipment, for social and cultural work and for the training of apprentices. The proposed investments were not completely achieved. The department for the production of wheel sets, which was scheduled to be part of the iron construction department, was therefore set up in the Niesky (O 52/A 92) railroad car factory. the end of 1950, 96 percent of the expansion of the steelworks was completed. The final construction work, including the construction of four open hearth furnaces, was completed late in 1950, except for some minor details, and the scheduled monthly capacity of 8,000 tons was achieved. The scheduled expansion of the steel casting foundry I was completed 95 percent. Six annealing furnaces and mold-drying ovens were completed and in operation. When the five new cranes have been installed, this foundry will have a monthly capacity of 500 tons. The expansion work on steel casting foundry II was also completed 95 percent. The construction of this foundry was hampered mainly by the lack of 100 tons of structural shapes and of various electrical installations. The work on the iron construction department was completed by late 1950, exceptfor the electrical equipment for two cranes. The expansion of the large forge was completed 98 percent, that of the grey iron foundry 96 percent. the malleable iron foundry 88 percent, the fitting cutting shop 98 percent, the wheel rim rolling mill 94 percent, and the installations for the training of apprentices 85 percent. The expansion of the installations for the training of apprentices was delayed because the funds were not approved before the end of 1950. The construction of a training foundry for apprentice molders, the most important training installation, was begun immediately and was completed, except for some minor details, late in 1950.